

b.) Remarks

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended in order to more specifically recite the subject matter of the elected invention. Additionally, claims 2, 3, 5, 12-24 and 27-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-11 are objected to formal reasons noted at page 2 of the Office Action, e.g., as reciting unelected subject matter. In response, claims 1 and 4 are above amended to specify that -X-Y-Z- is -O-CR³=N- in which R¹³ and R¹⁴ are not cyclized with the N to which they are attached. Accordingly, this objection is mooted.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement for the reasons discussed at page 3 of the Office Action. In response, solely in order to reduce the issues and expedite prosecution, claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled. Accordingly, this rejection is mooted as well.

Regarding a final formal matter, the Examiner indicated that he considered documents A and B only of the art cited in the December 15, 2006 Information Disclosure Statement. As understood by the undersigned, Japanese documents C-F were apparently not considered because they were not written in English. However, documents C-F were cited in the Written Opinion filed December 15, 2006, and the explanation of their relevance in the PCT documents was written in English. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the art cited therein be considered in conformity with MPEP 609.04(a)III (“Where the information listed is not in the English language, but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the

requirement for a concise explanation of relevance can be satisfied by submitting an English-language version of the search report.”)

In that regard, Applicants previously provided copies of documents C-F as a PDF on CD in order to reduce the size of the paper file. Nevertheless, for the Examiner’s convenience, paper copies of these documents are electronically filed herewith. If any fees are required for consideration of the cited art, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the Examiner's concerns are now overcome and the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1, 4 and 6-11 remain presented for continued prosecution.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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